United Nations A/HRC/30/L.25

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
29 September 2015

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirtieth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Albania, Australia,* Bangladesh, Belgium,* Cameroon,* Colombia,* Czech Republic,* Denmark,* Djibouti,* Estonia, France, Ghana, Greece,* Guatemala,* Iraq,* Italy,* Monaco,* Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand,* Norway,* Peru,* Romania,* Slovenia,* Spain,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia,* Turkey,* Ukraine,* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America: draft resolution

30/... Human rights and preventing and countering violent extremism

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 68/127 of 18 December 2013, 68/276 of 13 June 2014 and 69/140 of 15 December 2014, Human Rights Council resolutions on human rights and countering terrorism and relevant international instruments relating to terrorism,

Recognizing that the objectives of countering violent extremism and countering terrorism and of the protection and promotion of human rights, fundamental freedoms and rule of law are mutually reinforcing,

Looking forward with interest to the upcoming plan of action of the Secretary-General on preventing violent extremism, and reaffirming that the Human Rights Council has a complementary role to play in supporting the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by emphasizing the human rights dimensions in countering violent extremism and preventing the spread of violent extremism,

Welcoming the efforts made by the Secretary-General and the High Representative of the Secretary-General for the Alliance of Civilizations to promote greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures and religions,

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

Please recycle

Noting the contribution of the processes of the countering violent extremism summits and related international and regional conferences and meetings held throughout the world,

Recognizing the important role of regional organizations and comprehensive, multi-stakeholder approaches to prevent and counter violent extremism,

Recognizing also that violent extremism, in all its forms and manifestations, cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Recognizing further the commitment of all religions to peace, and determined to condemn violent extremism, which spreads hate and threatens lives,

Reaffirming that violent extremism constitutes a serious common concern for all States, and convinced that there is no justification for violent extremism, whatever the motivation,

Noting that while there can be no excuse or justification for violent extremism, abuses and violations of human rights may contribute to creating an environment in which people, especially youth, are vulnerable to radicalization that leads to violent extremism and recruitment by violent extremists and terrorists,

Deeply concerned at the profound threat posed by acts resulting from violent extremism to the realization and enjoyment of human rights and by the increasing and serious human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by violent extremist and terrorist groups, including those involving unlawful killings, the deliberate targeting of civilians, the unlawful recruitment and use of child soldiers, sexual violence and other forms of violence, forced conversions, targeted persecution of individuals on the basis of their religion or belief, forced displacement and abduction, abuse of women and children, and acts of violence against members of ethnic and religious minorities, and unlawful sieges involving civilians, especially minorities,

Deploring attacks on religious places and shrines and cultural sites, which violate international law, in particular human rights and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

Recalling that, as affirmed in the Preamble to the Charter, the practice of tolerance is one of the principles to be applied to attain the ends pursued by the United Nations of preventing war and maintaining peace, and convinced that the respect for and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, as well as tolerance, the recognition and appreciation of others and the ability to live together with and to listen to others form a sound foundation of any society and of peace,

Emphasizing the importance of supporting, recognizing and protecting the rights of victims of violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations, deploring the suffering caused by violent extremism to the victims and their families, expressing profound solidarity with them, and stressing the importance of providing them with proper support and assistance while taking into account, when appropriate, considerations regarding remembrance, dignity, respect, justice and truth, ensuring accountability and ending impunity, in accordance with international law,

Reaffirming States' international obligations to promote and protect human rights while preventing and countering violent extremism, and recognizing that the protection of human rights is crucial to achieving the goal of effectively preventing and countering violent extremism,

Reaffirming the commitment of States to take measures aimed at raising awareness of, and addressing the numerous and diverse conditions conducive to, the spread of violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting that States may seek to integrate poverty eradication as part of their national strategies to address one of the conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 of 24 March 2011 on combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion and belief, and recalling also the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, as important tools to counter violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations,

Reaffirming that human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of peaceful assembly and of association, are essential components of democracy providing individuals with invaluable opportunities to express their political opinions and that enables dialogue in preventing and countering violent extremism,

Underscoring that preventing and countering violent extremism requires a whole-of-society approach, involving government, civil society, local and religious leaders and the private sector, and acknowledging that the active participation of civil society is a key factor in governmental efforts to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms while preventing and countering violent extremism,

1. *Reaffirms* that acts, methods and practices of violent extremism in all their forms and manifestations are activities that threaten the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and democracy, and threaten territorial integrity and the security of States, and destabilize legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the steps necessary to enhance cooperation to prevent and counter violent extremism;

2. *Urges* States to take measures to ensure that counter-terrorism laws and implementing measures are consistent with and are applied in a manner that fully respects human rights, and reaffirms that States must ensure that any measures taken to prevent and counter violent extremism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law;

3. *Calls upon* States and local entities involved in supporting the prevention and countering of violent extremism efforts to continue to facilitate the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including through human rights education and training, as well as due process and the rule of law;

4. *Encourages* States to engage with local communities and non-governmental actors through a whole-of-society approach in developing strategies that respect human rights and fundamental freedoms to counter narratives that incite acts of violent extremism and terrorism and address the conditions conducive to the spread of violent extremism, including by empowering women, religious, cultural, education and local leaders, engaging members of all concerned groups in civil society and from the private sector, adopting tailored approaches that incorporate human rights and fundamental freedoms to prevent and counter recruitment to this kind of violent extremism, and promoting social inclusion and cohesion;

5. *Stresses* the need to empower youth, including by means of targeted youth employment programmes that promote political participation, economic inclusion and social cohesion and respect for human rights as a means to prevent and counter violent extremism;

6. *Reaffirms* the important role that education, including human rights education and training, can play in preventing and countering violent extremism, and in this regard encourages States to cooperate in efforts to achieve the goals and targets under the

Education For All movement and work to achieve the aims of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/137 of 19 December 2011;

7. *Emphasizes* that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding and respect among peoples, including at the national, regional and global levels, while avoiding the escalation of hatred are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation, combating terrorism and countering violent extremism, and welcomes the various initiatives to this end;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to advocate for and disseminate information on tolerance and mutual respect, and underlines the potential contribution of the media and new communications technologies, including the Internet, to promoting respect for all human rights, to developing a better understanding among all religions, beliefs, cultures and peoples, to enhancing tolerance and mutual respect and thus to strengthening the rejection of violent extremism;

9. *Emphasizes* that civil society should have an enabling environment to develop, promote and advance comprehensive solutions to prevent and counter violent extremism, in accordance with national strategies and respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and recognizing the contributions of civil society to these efforts;

10. *Also emphasizes* the need to enhance international cooperation and effective partnerships, including by strengthening national capacities, and developing, promoting and implementing comprehensive and coordinated solutions that respect human rights and are aimed at preventing and countering violent extremism;

11. *Underscores* the need to promote community-oriented and law enforcement efforts that respect human rights in preventing and countering violent extremism;

12. *Also underscores* the need to prevent and counter radicalization that leads to violent extremism in detention facilities and prisons, and to support rehabilitation and reintegration measures while promoting human rights;

13. *Recognizes* the work of relevant United Nations, international, regional and subregional organizations and civil society in preventing and countering violent extremism, including the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and its entities, and the development and implementation of good practices in various forums such as the Global Counterterrorism Forum, including as outlined in its Ankara Memorandum on Good Practices for a Multi-Sectoral Approach to Countering Violent Extremism;

14. *Notes* the importance of relevant United Nations bodies and entities in preventing and countering violent extremism, and calling upon the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant international stakeholders to complement ongoing United Nations initiatives on preventing and countering violent extremism;

15. *Decides* to convene a panel at its thirty-first session to discuss the human rights dimensions of preventing and countering violent extremism, and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to prepare a summary report on the panel discussion;

16. *Invites* the Office of the High Commissioner to prepare a compilation report on best practices and lessons learned on how protecting and promoting human rights play a critical role in preventing and countering violent extremism by the thirty-third session of the Council, and encourages the Office to consult with Member States, United Nations entities and other organizations, as appropriate, to benefit from ongoing relevant work on the human rights dimensions of preventing and countering violent extremism.